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EASTERN EUROPEAN INTELLIGENCER

OCI #0727/68  
8 June 1968New Student Demands in Belgrade

Students occupying Belgrade University hardened their position by stating they will not negotiate with the regime until police officials responsible for "brutal" measures against them are dismissed, according to a UPI report.

A spokesman for the rebelling students allegedly stated this was a pre-condition before serious talks could begin, and that "normalcy" would return only after firm guarantees are received. While the regime has agreed to meet the students' "justifiable" demands, this new insistence on guarantees and prerequisites indicates the students are determined to press hard for their cause and will be won over only by deeds, not words.

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Polish Reaction to Kennedy Assassination

The Polish press, while mourning Senator Kennedy's death, has seized the opportunity for an attack on US "lawlessness" and implied government complicity in political assassination.

Two leading Warsaw dailies, Trybuna Ludu and Zycie Warszawy, have linked both Kennedy assassinations and ZW places the onus for the crimes on the CIA and the FBI. Neither paper eulogizes Senator Kennedy, saying only that he was "quick and intelligent, which is not always characteristic of American politicians."

As for the official Warsaw reaction, Acting Foreign Minister Winiewicz, referred to by Radio Warsaw as "head of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs," sent a condolence telegram to Mrs. Ethel Kennedy.

The Catholic church announced that a solemn mass honoring Senator Kennedy would be held in St. John's cathedral in Warsaw on 10 June. Polish prelate Stefan Cardinal Wyszynski, who met Senator Kennedy during a four-day visit in 1964, may attend the service. It's a good bet that St. John's will be packed on Monday night with or without Wyszynski.

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European Student Problems and the Sofia Youth Festival

Soviet youth representatives are shying away from an Italian proposal for in depth discussions of European student problems at the forthcoming World Youth Festival scheduled to open in Sofia on 28 July.

The Italian Communist Party considers the student movement important and intends to increase its efforts to exploit this phenomenon at the Festival.

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The relative freedom of expression encountered at Youth Festivals has always been difficult for Communist regimes to handle and the Bulgarian hosts must view this latest Italian proposal as Excedrin headache number 39.

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Czechoslovak Penal System Undergoing Revisions

The Ministry of Justice will take over the administration of the penal system from the discredited Interior Ministry.

The Justice Ministry is looking into reforms, and inter alia considering the possibility of establishing the office of "investigative judge," presumably to ride herd on prosecutors who might in their zealousness overstep the bounds of legality.

Election of judges to regular courts is being considered. The Justice Minister has said that a proposal has been made for indirect elections in the National Assembly or in lower representative bodies. The length of terms of office would be indefinite, subject to recall or transfer. The elections would effect the judicial system all the way from the district level to the supreme court.

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Yugoslav Auto Factory Issues Industrial Bonds

Yugoslavia's leading automobile factory, Crvenz Zastava, announced on 31 May it would issue for purchase by private citizens bonds valued at \$80 million beginning on 2 June.

The bonds, the first of their type in communist Yugoslavia, bear 6% interest per annum but do not give the holder a voice in management. They will be guaranteed by the Yugoslav Investment Bank (YIB). Purchasers can pay for the bonds over a ten month period and have the right to resell them to other buyers.

Crvenz Zastava hopes to use the funds raised to expand production from the current 45,000 vehicles per year to 138,000 by 1971. If successful, YIB reportedly is considering using bonds in cooperation with a dozen other firms.

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Yugoslavs Interested in Negotiating TransAtlantic Air Routes

Yugoslavia is interested in negotiating a bilateral air route agreement with Washington, despite the fact that service to the US is not planned to begin for some time. Officials of the Yugoslav airline, JAT, claim that knowledge of potential air routes would be of great help for their long range planning-- particularly aircraft purchases. Moreover, establishment of such routes would bolster JAT's argument for the purchase of US aircraft.

At a 29 May Belgrade meeting between US embassy officials and a representative of the General Directorate for Civil Aeronautics (GDCA), it was suggested that the GDCA raise the question of bilateral negotiations through the Yugoslav Foreign Office. Even if these negotiations are started, however, it will be some time before JAT branches out from its area of specialization, the Middle East.

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